

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] The important compositional differences between the invention alloy and alloy 7055 are the Si and Fe levels. The invention alloy possesses surprising, significantly enhanced fatigue performance associated with Si and Fe compositional changes when compared to alloy 7055. The inventors have discovered that an improvement in the invention alloy fatigue failure resistance is associated with decreasing fatigue initiation by  $Mg_2Si$  intermetallic particles. When the Si concentration is maintained below about 0.06%, particularly below about 0.04%, the usually observed  $Mg_2Si$  in ~~an~~ this alloy system is absent or almost absent, thereby significantly delaying the onset of fatigue failure.